



SPW

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 2871 (203-3013)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Christopher J. Criscuolo et al.

Examiner: TBD

Serial No.: 10/680,368

Group Art Unit: 3762

Filed: October 6, 2003

Dated: May 31, 2005

For: **BALLOON DISSECTOR WITH CANNULA**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO/SB/08A is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not provided in accordance with the waiver of that requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on date below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: May 31, 2005


Jennifer Puente

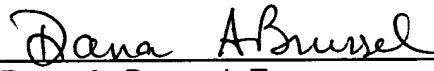
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Dana A. Brussel, Esq.
Reg. No. 45,717
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP
445 Broad Hollow Road
Suite 225
Melville, New York 11747
Tel.: (631) 501-5700
Fax: (631) 501-3526

DAB/jjp

~~Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.~~

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/680,368
Filing Date	October 6, 2003
First Named Inventor	Christopher J. Criscuolo et al.
Art Unit	3762
Examiner Name	TBD
Attorney Docket Number	2871 (203-3013)

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 01/26724	4/19/2001	General Surgical Innovations		
		WO 04/32756	4/22/2004	Criscuolo et al.		
		WO 01/26724 A3	4/19/2001	General Surgical Innovations		
		WO 97/21461 A	6/19/97	General Surgical Innovations		
		EP 0 880 939 A	12/2/1998	Ethicon		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.